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SR 168 REQUESTING REGULATION OF BOATING IN MARINE LIFE CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Statement for
Senate Committees on
Transportation
Ecology, Environment and Transportation
Public Hearing, 7 March 1979

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SR 168 would request that the Departments of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) and of Transportation (DOT) cooperate in the development and implementation of regulations controlling boating in Marine Life Conservation Districts. This statement on the resolution does not reflect an institutional position of the University.

SR 168 recognizes the authority of the DLNR to establish marine life conservation districts, the authority of the DOT to regulate boating, and the effect of the cooperation of DLNR and DOT in establishing special boating control regulations for one Marine Life Conservation district, that at Kealahou.

Properly controlled, boating in a marine life conservation district is not necessarily inconsistent with conservation needs. Uncontrolled, however, boating may result in considerable environmental damage. For example, anchoring in live coral must almost inevitably result in damage to the coral.

The cooperation of DLNR and DOT in the development of special boating regulations appropriate to each Marine Life Conservation District and in the effective implementation of such regulations should not need encouragement. However, the lack of such regulations in other than those for the Kealahou Marine Life Conservation District indicates the need for such encouragement as SR 168 would provide.